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TOP SECRET

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29 JUL 1948

138

**GENERAL**

1. British eager for speed on Palestine plan--Grady has informed Acheson that the British are "as anxious for speed" on the Palestine plan as is the US, but feel that the immigration of 100,000 Jews into Palestine must be made contingent on the acceptance of the plan as a whole. Grady adds that the Jewish Agency can expedite that immigration by "quickly approving" a plan "which a number of their leaders have informally suggested."

Grady also reports that Attlee proposes to inform Parliament this week that the US and UK believe that the plan concluded at London "provides as fair and reasonable a compromise between the claims of Arab and Jew as it is possible to devise."

3. Soviets send 300 Messerschmidts to Yugoslavia--The US Military Attache in Belgrade has been told by three Majors of the Yugoslav Army that approximately 300 Messerschmidt 110's have arrived in Belgrade from the USSR during the past six weeks. The aircraft had been equipped with armor plate, apparently with a view to their employment in ground support rather than fighter operations. The new planes bring estimated Yugoslav tactical aircraft strength to approximately 700.

5. British Foreign Office views on the unification of Germany--US Military Attache London has been informed that the Foreign Office does not favor US proposals for amalgamation of the occupation zones in Germany. The

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Foreign Office believes that (a) such a move would lead to a politically unified Germany, "doubtless" under Communist control, which would then seek to extend her influence to the west and north, and (b) if, "by chance," Germany were to become united under a non-Communist Government, she would probably seek to extend her influence to the east, and thus sow the seeds of eventual war.

### EUROPE-AFRICA

- 25X1
6. **USSR: Rumor of Soviet atomic bomb**--US Military Attache in Moscow reports that, according to a reliable UP news correspondent, a Soviet lecturer recently announced that an "experimental atomic bomb of great power" had been exploded in the Kazakhstan area (central Asiatic USSR). The MA is unable to confirm the report, but comments that any such statement would be issued only on official Soviet sanction.
  7. **BULGARIA: Soviets reject US protest**--General Robertson, US Representative ACC Bulgaria, has repeatedly protested to General Biryusov, Soviet Chairman ACC, against the Bulgarian Government's orders forbidding Government agencies to give information to foreign missions without ACC authorization. Robertson has requested that these instructions be rescinded, or that General Biryusov announce that they are based on Soviet authority alone. Biryusov has rejected the US request on the ground that the US is a participant in the ACC.
  8. **GREECE: Anti-Communist measures in north**--The US Military Attache in Athens has been told [redacted] that two new Greek security battalions have been formed with a strength of 700 each. One of these is reported to be enroute to Greek Macedonia with orders to give "no quarter to Communists." The MA comments that such measures may lead to open fighting in northern Greece.
  9. **TURKEY: Report on election**--US Ambassador Wilson reports that the initial satisfaction throughout Turkey on the fair and orderly conduct of the 21 July election has been followed by widespread suspicion and charges by the opposition Democrats of irregularities in counting the votes. Wilson believes that in the new Assembly the Democrat leaders, who are in the main younger men familiar with popular wishes, will exercise an influence

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out of proportion to their number. He feels that in spite of errors committed by both sides, the election constitutes a "fairly creditable achievement when viewed in the light of what Turkey was a few years ago."

10. IRAN: Anti-Soviet coup planned in Azerbaijan--A prominent Azerbaijan politician has told US Ambassador Allen that many Azerbaijanis are "about prepared to take action themselves" to overthrow the "Soviet puppet regime" in Tabriz. Allen's informant expressed fear that Soviet intervention would defeat the attempted coup.

Soviet troop concentrations unconfirmed--Allen also forwards a report from US Consulate Tabriz stating that no reports have been received of Soviet Army movements on the USSR-Azerbaijan border (see Daily Summary of 25 July, item 6), but that the Soviets still are supplying the Azerbaijanis with garrison equipment and construction materials.

Renewed tension at Abadan--Allen reports that Tehran is under considerable tension over the likelihood of disturbances in Abadan resulting from the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's refusal to pay its workers for the period during which they recently were on strike.

FAR EAST

25X1

12. SIAM: Government agrees to US air rights--US MA Bangkok reports that the Siamese Government has acceded to the US request for certain rights for US military aircraft at Don Muang airdrome during the occupation of Japan and Germany. The MA states that the Siamese wish to cite, as an explanation for a preferential agreement with the US, Siam's need for US assistance in the rebuilding of the Siamese airforce and airlines.

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13. **CHINA: Soviet vessels loading tungsten at Shanghai**--US Consul General Davis has learned from a "highly confidential source" that Soviet vessels are loading between 400 and 500 tons of tungsten at Shanghai, presumably for delivery to the USSR. The same source has indicated that between 2,000 and 3,000 tons of tungsten have been shipped from Shanghai to the USSR since V-J day.
14. **KOREA: Soviets arm Communists in North Korea**--General Hodge has received reports from North Korea that the Soviet Army is training various Communist organizations in the Soviet Zone and aims at a goal of 500,000 armed Koreans in three years. Reports also indicate that Soviet authorities are sending a number of young Koreans to the USSR for indoctrination.

#### **THE AMERICAS**

15. **BOLIVIA: Mining elements protest new regime**--Ambassador Flack reports that certain mine workers' groups, who had always been favored by Villarroel, have belatedly demonstrated against the overthrow of the Villarroel government. The situation is now outwardly calm. Flack believes that the demonstrators were inspired by an "unwarranted" fear that a reactionary administration would deprive them of their favored position. (Previous reports had indicated endorsement of the new government by mine workers.)

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